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April 26, 1999

Dockets Management Branch (HFA-305) FDA 5630 Fishers Lane, Rm. 1061 Rockville, MD 20852

Dear FDA,

I would like you to consider <u>more</u> extensive labeling of irradiated foods, rather than less. I believe any food, pre-packaged or fresh, should be labeled. I think parents and guardians should know if school lunchrs contain irradiated foods. Restaurants should show the irradiated foods label on their menu.

I am convinced that irradiated foods will reduce the incidence of food-borne illnesses. For that reason, some people will like labeling to choose irradiated food.

I will wait on my decision to purchase irradiated foods for my family, until long term studies are conducted that convincingly show that irradiated foods will not increase a person's cancer risk. On their own, I imagine irradiated foods won't cause cancer. I worry about the accumulative effect of irradiation and toxins in our environment.

I hope you will think long and hard before reducing the required labeling of irradiated foods.

Sincerely,

Linda H. Feltes

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